

THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL

Devoted to Social, Political, Literary, Musical and Dramatic Gossip.

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VICTORIA, B. C., NOVEMBER 12, 1892.

[\$1.00 PER ANNUM

TALES OF THE TOWN.

I LIKE a good story, and the following suits me quite well enough. The narrator said: "I once came near losing my life by being too smart. I was at Rio Janeiro and desired to go to Havana. There was at that time no steamers plying between those points, and I had to take passage on a sailing vessel. The ship was to sail before daylight, and I went aboard early to get comfortably settled. That evening I sat on the deck till long past midnight, chatting with a party of Englishmen who were also passengers. Presently one of them got up, tossed his cigar overboard, and announced that he was going ashore. 'The deuce you are!' exclaimed one of his companions. 'You'll get left.' 'Exactly,' he replied, 'and if I go in this ship I'll get drowned. Look there; don't you see the rats are leaving it?' and he pointed to the gang plank. Sure enough, the rats were going ashore, a hundred or more of them at a time, headed by a grey, old rodent. Well, we all laughed at the young Englishman for putting faith in sailor superstitions, and I guess I was the greatest scoffer in the lot. He went, and we remained aboard the vessel. On the second day out, the ship sprang a leak, and before night was under forty fathoms of water. We took the lifeboats and drifted about for twenty-four hours before we were picked up by a Brazilian bark and taken back to Rio. One of the first men I met was the young Englishman I had ridiculed. He was the most generous man I ever met, and never once said 'Rats.'"

The associated charities of Hamilton have undertaken a work which may interest Victoria people who are anxious to encourage thrift among a class of persons who are not likely to think of opening an account in one of the ordinary savings banks. The scheme is the establishment of a savings bank for small sums of money, and already the experiment has been a success; a sum amounting to \$564.52 having been deposited in no less than one month's time. In all probability the depositors of the small sums making this aggregate would have expended the amount had it not been for the opportunity thus afforded them to make a beginning. The beginning is everything in such a case as this, and once a nest egg is set aside, a desire to add to it exists which leads to further accretion. In this way, sums may be saved up which will continue to grow until they reach useful proportions.

The age is one of extravagance, not only with those who can afford it, but with those who cannot do so. To check this tendency, especially on the part of those who cannot afford it, is a laudable object, and when its aims are directed to saving

the cents of the poor and needy from unnecessary expenditure is deserving of every encouragement. The plan adopted in Hamilton is a savings bank system by means of stamps, similar in appearance to postage stamps, which are placed on sale in different localities. On becoming a depositor, each person receives a card, which, when filled with stamps, no matter what their value, is returned to the secretary, who exchanges it for a new card and a pass-book in which is credited all deposits. The proceeds of the sale of stamps are collected once a week.

Marmaduke Wood is announced for Monday night at the Imperial in readings from Hamlet. A large number of tickets have been sold, and no doubt the people who are buying them will be sold, if they expect to see anything more than a great farce. In order that the tragedy of Hamlet will not result in a real tragedy, the management will furnish the Hon. Marmaduke with a bodyguard. However, it is proposed to make the burial scene as realistic as possible, and it will be the prerogative of every man present, if the performance does not meet with his approbation, to participate in the funeral services. A local dramatic critic has tendered the use of his head for one night only to be used in Hamlet's address to Yorick's skull. Altogether, the performance will be unique, if not artistic.

The two commissions which have been sitting in Victoria have about completed their labors. The one on epidemic diseases may or may not go to Nanaimo. It has taken a mass of testimony which shows that lack of knowledge and carelessness had much to do with the introduction as well as the spread of smallpox. There was something grossly wrong at Albert Head either in the system, the conduct of affairs, or the inspection of vessels, and the quarantining of suspects should have been much more effectively carried out; there was much contempt for authority on the part of C. P. steamship officials who, as it were, bullied the health officers out of discharging their duty, and both individuals and municipalities, together with the officers of the latter, were either grossly ignorant of what they ought to do, or were influenced in their action by fear, favor or other considerations that should have had no weight with them.

As for the Coquitlam enquiry, the evidence that has so far found its way into the papers does not appear to have in any way strengthened the American case, though it may be that the Washington authorities may affect to find in it excuse for what they did, if not, indeed, for the entire justification of their official action.

A LOCAL philosopher who airs his gigantic mentality every Jewish Sabbath, at five cents an air, was seen on Government street this afternoon hunting for something in the gutter. Somebody suggested it might have been a joke for next week's fulmination.—*Times*.

The above item plainly indicates that there is a reporter on the *Times* who can tell at a glance what is interesting news and what is not—more particularly the latter; and it appears to me that there is now no further excuse why he should not be reinstated in the position of city editor, which he recently resigned for reasons best known to himself. I would suggest, purely on account of the interest I take in this "journalistic" prodigy, that he might increase his revenue by making application to outside papers, already represented here, to act as their correspondent. If he would like to know the best form of letter to use in applying for the position I can oblige him with the perusal of an application recently made to the *Seattle Post Intelligencer*, together with the editor's highly flattering opinion of the applicant endorsed upon it, and which is before me as I write. That aspiring "journalists" may learn how to get along in the world, provided they are not overburdened with scruples and are in total ignorance of what constitutes the ethics of journalism, I may publish the letter in a future issue. In the meantime, I would state that I have no desire to usurp the functions of the common hangman, but prefer to allow this high-minded journalist-reporter every opportunity of persisting in a line of policy which must inevitably result in self-strangulation.

Neither learning, nor philosophy, nor advantages of any kind, hold a monopoly of correct judgment as to the right and wrong of the everyday affairs of life. He who, with ordinary intelligence and a sincere desire to do right, trusts to his own instinctive ideas of what is right, is far more likely to decide wisely and to act justly than one who uses his brain to weave subtle arguments, to find specious excuses, evasions and contradictions, or to discover some supposed conflict of duties which shakes his previous firm convictions.

After what are described as having been a series of eminently successful experiments with local material, it is said to be the intention to establish in the vicinity of Victoria works for the production of Portland cement in considerable quantities. Should prices and quality be right there could not fail to be a good market in this province and all along the Pacific coast as well as, perhaps, in Australia. The B. C. article is said to be superior to the imported, and can be produced from \$2 to \$2.50 per barrel less.

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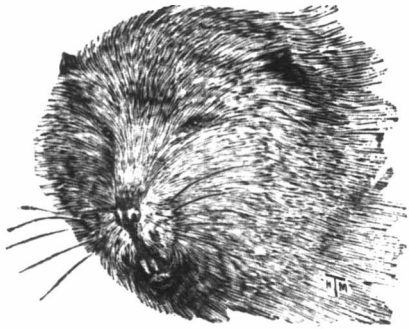
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CTORIA.

is that of the stated fashionable call. A woman who wishes to accomplish something outside of society finds her time broken in on and her day gone before she is aware by numerous Mrs. Joneses who call to say that Mrs. Smith's "at home" was "delightful" and that the DeBrown wedding was "one of the events of the season." Then the Mrs. Joneses "check off" Mrs. Society on their calling lists and thank heaven that the balance is again on the right side of the ledger. To prevent this awful waste of time and to do away with much of the hypocritical "business" of society the Tacoma News very sensibly suggests a clearing house for calls. Just as the banks send a representative to meet other banks' representatives and straighten up accounts, there should be a society clearing house where once each week, perhaps, each woman of society could send a representative or go herself, exchange cards and make her social accounts balance by a half hour's work. The scheme has reason on its side and the society woman who desires time to read or visit with her husband or children should make a note of it.

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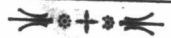
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PERSONAL GOSSIP.

Rev. Sebastian Dabovich, of the Greek church, St. Petersburg, is in the city.

Miss Annie David, of Burnside road, has returned from a visit to friends in Nanaimo.

Mr. Joseph R. Grice, late of Christ Church Cathedral choir, has accepted the position of choir master of St. Barnabas church.

The opening at home of the Iolantha dancing club was held Thursday evening in Harmony hall. About thirty couples attended.

Mrs. Laird, a talented vocalist from San Francisco, has arrived in this city, and will be attached to the staff at the Conservatory.

The libretto of Olivette has arrived, and the society will meet at the usual place on Monday next, when the books will be distributed for immediate practice.

The engagement is announced of a professional young man who lately aspired for aldermanic honors to the daughter of a prominent Presbyterian clergyman.

The members of Court Vancouver Order of Forresters, are giving a social dance and supper at the Philharmonic Hall, on Tuesday evening, 22nd inst.

The reception given in the Oddfellows Hall last evening was well attended. The programme as well as the dance passed off to the great enjoyment of all present.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. J. Smith, of 59 Kings Road are going for a trip East about the end of the month. They expect to spend Christmas at their old home in Orillia, Ont.

The committee in charge of the Lacrosse concert, have decided to postpone the entertainment for some time on account of the very many events now before the public.

There will be a concert in the Temperance Hall, Pandora Avenue, next Wednesday evening under the auspices of the W. C. T. U. A good programme is promised by the ladies.

A parlor social under the auspices of the Ladies Aid of the Pandora Methodist church, will be given Tuesday evening at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Dempster, Fernwood Road.

The sale of work by the Ladies' Aid, of St. Paul's Presbyterian church, Victoria West, netted the handsome sum of \$220, which will be applied in wiping off the floating debt of the church building committee.

Miss Elizabeth M. Lorimer, daughter of Mr. W. Lorimer, was married last

Wednesday evening to Mr. Fred. A. Jackson, druggist. Rev. P. McF. Macleod officiated, and Miss Lorimer and Mr. Widdowson attended the young people. The bride's costume was of Pongee silk, and was decidedly becoming.

The younger members of the Temple Emanu-El have at last organized a social club the officers of which are M. Reinhardt, president; Miss C. Phillips, vice-president; W. Baker, secretary; M. Isaacs, treasurer. A committee has been appointed to engage suitable apartments for meeting, etc. It is hoped that the work will succeed.

The rugby football match, Thursday afternoon, at Beacon Hill, between the Victoria and Westminster clubs, was one of the finest exhibitions of that game seen for some time. Both teams entered into the spirit of the game, and the bystanders were enthusiastic at the brilliant plays of both teams. Sir. R. Arbutnot distinguished himself by his very fine runs and clever, artful dodging.

To-morrow evening, at the residence of Mr. Phillips, Kane street, the engagement of Mr. D. Phillips to Miss R. Levy will be made public. Only the most intimate friends have been invited, as the affair will be private. Mr. Phillips is quite popular in the city, and his fiancée, who although but a short time in the city, has made many friends. THE HOME JOURNAL joins in hearty congratulations with their many friends.

The "House Warming," at which Mr. F. Landsberg entertained his numerous young acquaintances, was, indeed, a grand success. The ladies were tastefully dressed in becoming evening attire, and the gentlemen, in their swallow-tail coats and low cut vests, appeared at their best. After enjoying dancing, singing and recitations until 12 o'clock, the pianist played a march and the couples soon filled the spacious diningroom, the tables of which were laden with the choicest viands and delicacies. At the table, many appropriate toasts were made.

Mr. J. G. Brown, the talented leader of the First Presbyterian Church choir, who is blessed with a rich baritone voice, sang a very fine solo at the close of the sermon, Thanksgiving morning. The selection was that beautiful, old hymn in Scotch dialect entitled "My Ain Countrie," by Mary Lee Demorest. Mr. Brown sang with much feeling, and the scene was very affecting. The members of the congregation caught the true meaning from the lips of the singer, and every heart was filled. The singer himself appeared to have difficulty in getting out the last few lines and almost broke down.

At St. John's church, Wednesday evening, Miss Matilda Mesher, fourth daughter of Mr. George Mesher, contractor of this city, was married to Mr. Mortimer Appleby, son of Rev. Canon Appleby, of St. David's Cathedral, Wales. The service was fully choral and the ceremony was performed by Rev. Canon Paddon, the church being crowded. The bride wore a gown of rich ivory silk, made

en Princess and draped with beautiful Bavarian point lace, the court train, fastened with a butterfly at the shoulders, being of the same rich material as the dress itself. The veil was of old Brussels net, and the ornaments were of solid gold, the gift of the groom. Misses Alice and Lizzie Mesher, sisters of the bride, were bridesmaids, and Mr. Arthur W. Taylor, and Mr. Victor Mitchell supported the groom. The presents were numerous and valuable.

The Pandora Avenue Methodist Church was filled with a high-class audience, Thursday evening, to hear the rendition of the cantata "The Angel of the Harvest." Mr. J. Parfitt deserves praise for the very creditable concert given considering that most of the singers were young and, for the most part, untrained. The choruses were, on the whole, very well rendered and pleased the audience. Most of those taking the solo and duet parts appeared for the first time as concert singers and acquitted themselves creditably. The well known singers, Miss O'Neil and Miss Wolff, did very well the parts assigned them. The contralto solo by Miss Baker was one of the gems of the evening. The singer displayed the usual nervousness of a debutante, but did well. The recitation parts by Miss Burkholder and Miss Penwill were very nicely rendered. The organist, Mrs. R. L. Drury, and Miss Andrews, pianist, did their share towards the success of the evening. The cantata will probably be repeated before the end of the month.

EYE-WATER VERSUS SPECTACLES.

In the course of my professional business I have observed that many persons, both old and young, but especially referring to young ladies and gentlemen, are in the habit of wearing spectacles. As it is very difficult to credit that young persons really require to use them, I have come to the conclusion that in a majority of cases young people wear them more as an ornament than use, forgetting that they are really injuring their eyes by so doing. As I have had many years' experience respecting persons wearing eye-glasses, and also the professional advice of one of the best physicians of his day, the late Sir Henry Marsh, physician to Her Majesty Queen Victoria, who gave me his formula for eye-water, recommended by him, I think it my duty to advise the public and young people in particular to refrain from their use. Sir Henry condemns the usual eye-water given by druggists as very injurious to the eyes. Druggists' eye-water as a rule is sulphate of zinc. I beg to offer a bottle of eye-water made from the formula of Sir Henry, free to the first twenty persons that call for it (for their own use) at the Dominion Hotel from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, except Sunday. In one township of County Grey, Ontario, I sold 12 dozen bottles of this eye-water in six weeks; 16 pairs of spectacles were to my knowledge taken off for good, and I heard great compliments paid to me for the benefit the eye-water conferred on them. Price 25 cents. Apply to

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Victoria, Nov. 11th, 1892.

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1892.

THE new Lieut. Governor of the province, Hon. Mr. Dewdney, was sworn in (Wednesday Nov. 9,) by Chief Justice Sir Matthew B. Begbie.

FURTHER survey work is said to have been already undertaken in connection with the Canadian Western, Mr. Going, C. E., having gone North by the last steamer for that purpose.

UNDER the local improvement by-law, a large number of necessary civic works have been authorized to be done, the Victoria City Fathers having, at a late meeting, developed a disposition for work.

THERE would seem to be something doing on the part of the British authorities in connection with those Russian seizures. Customs Collector Milne has been called upon to collect facts for transmission to the Imperial authorities—the report says to enable them to prepare a case to be submitted to arbitration.

UNLESS persons who have recently arrived from the Australian colonies are misinformed, the people of New Zealand and all the antipodean British communities are keenly alive to the advisability of an improved mail and steamship service which it is said may possibly be inaugurated as an experiment during the World's Fair, Victoria or Vancouver being the objective point on this coast. If report be true, the experiment is scarcely likely to be made with the assistance of the line of Empresses, another story having, at least temporarily, assigned them to an Atlantic service with which the name of the C.P.R. is associated.

SOUNDS AND ECHOES.

THIS is the time of the year when a man who searches the Scriptures will find—autumn leaves.

It isn't considered good form for a physician to tell his butcher-patient that something is the matter with his liver.

"THE good die early." This axiom cannot apply to many Victoria clergymen, who are not only good, but accustomed to di-late.

HOWEVER strange it may seem yet it is fact that there is not one man in a dozen who will take the word of a preacher in a horse trade.

'THEY say the child looks like me.'

said a happy young father, displaying his first-born. "He does, a good deal," replied his facetious neighbor, "still I don't think I would drown him on that account."

ONE of six sisters—"I'm afraid papa was angry when you asked him for me; wasn't he, Jack, love?"

Jack—"Scarcely; he merely inquired if I knew of any more respectable young men who would be likely to marry your five sisters, if properly taken in hand."

WHAT MRS. GRUNDY SAYS.

That the greatest obstacle to the progress of cholera is cleanliness.

That more mental and less physical culture is to be desired at colleges.

That women who crave admiration sooner or later figure in scandals.

That those are always disappointed who look for patriotism in fashionable society.

That many people are never obnoxious until they suddenly become wealthy.

That there is no reason why imported clergymen should have preference over native.

That men whose income is derived from betting are nothing but "common gamblers."

That there is a great deal of nonsense about professional etiquette among physicians.

That neglected wives are foolish who shout their woes from the housetops.

That a good test of honesty is when called upon to swear to one's earthly possessions.

That the girl of the period is more familiar with current scandal than current literature.

That vulgar skirt dances only appeal to people of the lowest theatrical tastes.

That poor but honest means a good deal more nowadays than it used to.

As a result of the commercial treaty concluded between Spain and the United States, the latter country is now shipping 1,500 tons of rice weekly to Cuba duty free, which was formerly imported from Liverpool and paid a duty of £3 10s per ton.

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THE "DRUMMER'S" FIRST DAY.

"When I started on the road, I imagined that the life of a drummer was one long-drawn sigh of transcendent bliss," says an old commercial traveller, "I imagined that the country merchants would all be glad to see me, would laugh heartily at my jokes and take my advice regarding what they should buy. But the poetic dream soon vanished. I reached my first town in a pouring rain, and had to carry my heavy sample cases a quarter of a mile to the hotel. The first merchant I visited kept me waiting for an hour while he sold a plug of tobacco and a pint of whiskey to a negro, then sneaked out of the back door and went to dinner. The next one expressed an earnest desire to see every drummer hanged, and the third one pawed my samples over for an hour, informed me that all my best stories were told by Shem and Japhet in the ark, and that Ham grew black in the face trying to pitch them overboard. I got sour bread and fried catfish for dinner and slept that night on a corn-husk mattress from which the cobs had not been extracted. As I sat in my carpetless room on a chair with a game leg, and by the light of a smoky candle watched the bedbugs playing at bo-peep, I wanted to chuck my samples into the river, return to the city and drive a sprinkling cart."

THREE KINDS OF CUSTOMERS.

Every retail merchant knows that in trade there are three kinds of customers to deal with—first, the one who knows just what she wants; the second, the one who thinks she knows, and the third does not pretend to know. The first is generally posted on styles, fashions, weave, finish and colorings of the goods desired—in a word, knows what she wants and where to obtain it. This class is easily waited upon and gives the merchant and salesforce but little trouble. The second, who thinks she knows what wants and does not, is the one who is the most difficult to sell and please. She requires special attention, the exercise of patience and good judgment on the part of the salesforce. The good salesman understands this and brings the power of his knowledge of human nature to the aid to satisfy and to please. This is where the skill and tact of the good salesman comes in. The third is the unpretentious customer who prefers to depend upon the experience, taste, judgment and knowledge of the merchant and his salesforce rather than her own. She is frank enough to tell you that her knowledge of goods is limited and that she does not get out much. She depends upon you to be suited. This affords the salesman the opportunity to sell the late styles or unsalable stock in many instances. If he treats the customer fairly he tells what are good sellers, what are not selling well, what are the latest styles and the most serviceable goods. The cunning salesman often overreaches the mark by attempting to sell an unsalable article to such a customer. This is a mistake and one that will react against the merchant. Never deceive. If an article is out of style say so; tell the

truth and you will sell more goods, and satisfy your customers as well as yourself.

THE SAFE LIMIT.

In a recent issue, the *Monetary Times*—doubtless moved thereto by the outcome of the building boom in Toronto—discussed "the safe limits of building," and, in the course of its article, drew the distinction between over production of movables and over speculation in houses and lands. In the case of excess, the former may be exported, though at a sacrifice, while houses and lands on which money has been borrowed, which does not earn its own interest, must remain where they are. During the discussion of its subject, it arrived at the following conclusions: "Money expended in improvements, if it only pays its own interest in the return it makes, leaves the enterprise sterile; when it yields more, the balance is profit; when it yields less, there is loss, and the loss shows that the enterprise is one that should not have been undertaken, since the net result of the operation was a loss of national capital." "Whenever there is an excess of buildings in a city or town, every additional building erected, if of a kind to compete with the old ones, depreciates the value of the whole, and lessens the security of loans made on the property."

Reference is made to the policy of the Dutch people of the olden days who, when there was a surplus of any article that was likely to decrease the value of the whole stock of that article, deliberately went to work and burnt the surplus, thereby producing artificial scarcity. This policy is simply given as illustrative of the principle at issue, but it is almost needless to say in our days would be not only impolitic but *contra bonos mores*. It is pointed out that the builder—who may be spoken of as speculative—who builds houses without regard to the demand, almost invariably does so on borrowed capital, the lender—the mortgagee—bearing the entire risk. The imprudence of capitalists in lending out their money in this way is thus one of the prime causes of the trouble, and with them lies—if not the solution of the difficulty—at least the preventive of its recurrence. They no doubt have been tempted to make their advances by the high rates to which in building and real estate booms interest attains, forgetful that surplus houses cannot be got rid of in foreign markets, while so long as they continue unoccupied they tend to lower the value of those which surround and adjoin.

Very often these real estate booms are brought about by the prospect of some real or fancied benefit that some undertaking is expected to bring about. Victoria has been influenced in this way in the past by what was expected in the "to be" and considerable amounts of money are at present being diverted into supposed railway towns that are now being boomed. Whether this activity is justified, remains to be seen; but those who are possessed of money will do well to see that they are not carried altogether off their heads and, indeed, off their feet, by what is actually a feverish anxiety to make money more rapidly than the ordinary methods and the pursuance of good principles warrant. We

hope to see the railway referred to constructed at an early date and successfully operated, but there is no need for people to get crazy and invest foolishly and nordinately in a town which at its best cannot be built in a day nor can be called into existence as the one told of in the story of Aladdin, with whose name the burlesque playwrights associated an application that most expressively rhymed with the words "wonderful lamp."—*B. C. Commercial Journal*.

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OF INTEREST TO WOMEN.

THE shopgirls' agitation has reached Paris. The demoiselles who preside in those centres of delight, the Paris drygoods stores, want shorter hours, seats, and more money. Mme. Leonie Rougade is their leader and she is urging the formation of a chambre syndicate feminine or a shopgirls' union. She is an elderly woman, and the points she makes are a demand for an eight-hour working day, with an interval for meals, a weekly holiday, the abolition of fines, a prohibition of the custom which obtains in many shops of allowing young girls to stand at the doors to invite customers to enter, a more general introduction of seats to be used when not attending to customers, and legislation to regulate evening and night work, as well as other minor concessions. Another agitator is Mlle. Myrtil Renguet, who condemns shopkeepers who employ young men in such work as that of measuring yards of ribbon or wrapping up spools of cotton. Fines also and the autocratic partialities of the shopwalker are among the troubles. But the French girls have a more serious grievance in the encouragement to immorality to which they are subjected.

If you are really desirous of being in the latest fashion, writes Miss Mantalini, you will at once add three or four inches to the width of your shoulders. This may be done by wearing a short cape flounce or large epaulettes, arranged with much fulness on the top of the sleeves. You will also broaden your chest, and have enormous lapels put on all your gowns and outdoor garments. Your sleeves should be somewhat larger than your waist—that is, if you wear a 20-inch corset. The bodies of your evening gowns will, of course, be made short, and cut low in order to show your shoulders. The sleeves will be fairly short, and of the balloon pattern.

Dr. H. B. Fellows, Dean of the Hahnemann Medical College in Chicago, is not, alas, a friend to "Woman in Medicine." In fact, Dr Fellows remarks frankly that she should not be there. He says that at the critical moment she almost invariably loses nerve and fails, especially

if she be a surgoen. There are a few departments, he remarks condescendingly, in which she does very well, but he destroys the pleasant taste of this by adding that it has been demonstrated that where great skill is required male doctors are the best. Dr. Fellow's opinion is doubly interesting from the fact that his school is co-educational.

A new idea, which is exceedingly smart and pretty, is the double skirt. It is made in rough cloths, either beaver or serge, with a selvedge in contrasting color. A gown of dark green beaver-cloth has an inch wide of selvedge Indian red. This borders the lower skirt, and the upper skirt falls over it to below the knees, and is also selvedge bordered. There is hardly any fulness in the top skirt, while the underneath one is quite plain, but both are full at the back.

"I wish," said a charitably disposed woman, addressing a meeting the other day, "that a committee could be appointed to mend my children's clothes. I have a box of flannels to get ready for the heathen, a poem to write about the evils of tobacco, six committees to serve on this week for charitable purposes, and my husband, unfeeling wretch, complains that my children are still wearing summer dresses."

The tippet, says Mrs. Aria in *Hearth and Home*, is the latest popular revival in dress. It now differs, of course, somewhat in shape from that worn by our grandmothers; it has not yet arrived at that nice point below the waist at the back and front, being at the moment perhaps more a pereline; but I have met it, she says, in a dozen and one different forms, and I doubt not the winter will find it well in favor.

Albani, the sweet singer, is still basking in the sunshine of royal approval. Queen Victoria, who loves her well and prefers her singing to that of all others, is entertaining her at Balmoral. Albani, while fully appreciative of Her Majesty's friendship, is unspoiled by it, and her charmingly unaffected manners, we are told, have endeared her to other members of the royal family.

Ladies have already noted that fur is

to be worn this winter. Everything for outdoor wear is trimmed with fur; house dresses have fur on them, evening gowns follow the same rule; in fact, fur trimming is better style now than it ever was before. Seal-skin is not quite so costly as it was last autumn, but it has not yet reached its ordinary price.

Langtry is arranging her hair after a new and striking fashion of her own invention. A thick, crimped bang hangs over the forehead and a huge, old-fashioned "waterfall" reaches almost to the waist. This she is constantly rearranging during the play, much to the discomfort of her audience.

The new name given to what promises to become the smartest fur of the season is no less alarming than "Brutschyanze," but it will very likely be called for convenience, what it really is—baby Persian lamb. It has very short hair, glossy and silky to a degree.

Ladies, and gentlemen, too, will be glad to learn that there is to be a great change in skirts for outdoor wear. Woman will not carry superfluity of material in the streets; the new skirts are short, but what is saved in the length is added to the width.

An invalid lady writes to *Work and Leisure* recommending heraldry as an agreeable diversion for the leisured invalid. Heraldry is not a familiar study amongst women, but it is infinitely more interesting than many of the fads of the day.

"Wanted, a cook. One with wooden legs preferred, on account of the basement being damp," is said by Mr. James Payn to have appeared lately in the advertising column of a weekly journal.

Miss Corbin, a young woman with four legs, is on exhibition in a New York museum. Her peculiar malformation has attracted much attention.

In China they believe that women by clinging to vegetarianism will become men on Judgment Day.

A Cornell College girl is studying veterinary surgery.

DOTS AND DASHES.

THE cholera spectre has withdrawn from the scene for the present. Sanitary science has so far proved its superiority to contagion and kept it beyond the sea. Fear of an outbreak this year has been abandoned, and business has settled down to its accustomed channels. America may congratulate herself on this occasion, as the results, had cholera obtained a foothold, could scarcely be conjectured. It looked for a while as though the World's Fair might have to be postponed, and even as it is, it might happen that the celebration next year might be the very means of introducing and spreading the plague on this continent. Let us hope for the best.

The business outlook in Canada is reassuring. Merchants of every class report a growing confidence that holds out promise of improved trade. Managers of our largest financial institutions report a satisfactory state of affairs and show good dividend sheets for the past half year. Farmers are fairly well satisfied with the way the crops have turned out, and although prices are low, there will be plenty of money in hand when grain begins to move.

France, when she puts an army on a war footing, has 4,055,000 men in line, and Russia, under the same circumstances, 4,556,000. Either of these outnumbers Germany's present forces, and the Kaiser and his ministers, in the new army bill, propose to raise the fighting strength of the German army to 4,400,000 men. The calculation is that this goes beyond the limit France's population can bear. If it is not also beyond the German taxpayer's strength it will be lucky for the house of Hohenzollern.

During a recent discussion of war and defense, Edison declared that, with a head of water and a handful of men, he could defy an army. He would surround his fort by an immense electric plant, supply his men with hose, and, when the enemy came within his circuit, play streams of water on them which would make them the connecting link in a powerful current and mow them down by hundreds.

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MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

Of Miss Esther Lyons' appearance in Siberia, a Baltimore paper says: "Sara, the chief female role, the daughter of a son of the chosen people by a Christian wife will be played by Miss Esther Lyons, a dark-eyed, willowy, California girl, to whom Nature has been most lavish in her gifts. In her brunette beauty she looks the character to life, and gives to the representation all the strength and fire of the sturdy Muscovite blood, tempered by patient resignation which ages of wrong and oppression have taught the descendants of the race of Jacob."

The Jeffreys Lewis company were fairly well received at The Victoria, on the evenings of Monday and Tuesday. Forget-Me-Not and La Belle Russe are well constructed plays of their kind, and are not without a moral, but many people no doubt object to the portrayal of abandoned women on the stage. The support was fair.

The Delmonico Music Hall, will be opened next Monday night. The management have engaged a full ladies' orchestra, and several ballad singers. The music will be high-class, and a change of programme is promised weekly.

Sadie Scanlan the actress, sister of W. J. Scanlan, died suddenly of heart

failure, last week, at her home in New York. Miss Scanlan was known in private life as Mrs. George Brennan.

Miller's Diorama will be seen at The Victoria Nov. 22. Besides the views which the Miller Bros. had when here last year will be the Chicago-Exposition.

Joseph R. Grismer is in New York preparing for the production of The New South at Proctor's theatre, in January.

Harry Mainhall made a decided impression in this city. He has a clear voice and a handsome stage presence.

The Frederick Ward-Louis James combination is reported to be doing a fine business in the south.

Marmaduke Wood will read selections from Hamlet at The Victoria Monday night.

A Turkish Bath is doing a splendid business in the south.

Alexander Salvini is noted as a collector of antiques.

Lottie Collins has joined Miss Helyett company.

Essie Tittell will in future be known as Esther Tittell.

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